

Brandhall Beat

Volume 10 issue 5 09/10/26



primary futures
bronze school 2026
raising aspirations through
career related learning



**SMARTPHONE
FREE SCHOOL**
SILVER RATED



**SMART SCHOOL
COUNCIL** MEMBER 26/27

Attendance for W/C 28/09/26 to 02/10/26

Nursery: 90.1% RA: 93.9% RB: 94.1% 1A: 89.3% 1B: 98.0%
2A: 98.6% 2B: 92.6% 3A: 98.3% 3B: 96.3% 4A: 94.8%
4B: 97.1% 5A: 95.5% 5B: 90.3% 6A: 92.4% 6B: 96.9%

Year 2: Hansel & Gretel

Last week, Year 2 enjoyed a magical Hansel and Gretel-inspired taste test, sampling a range of cookies and sweets just like those that might have been found in the gingerbread house.

Using their senses, the children described the different tastes, smells, textures and appearances of the treats, helping to bring the story to life.



Mental Health Day

This Friday, the children and staff came together to support Mental Health Day by wearing something yellow. It was great to see so many bright colours around school and to take the opportunity to talk about the importance of looking after our mental health and wellbeing.

Thank you to everyone who joined in and helped make the day so positive and uplifting! And a big thank you to Sinitta Bentley for coming in and teaching the pupils helpful breathing techniques!

This Week's Reminders!

School Photographs:
School photos will take place on 14th October. Please ensure your child comes to school in their full school uniform.

School Disco:
We are looking forward to our Year 1-6 School Disco on Wednesday 14th October. KS1 will take place from 3:15pm to 4:00pm, and KS2 from 4:15pm to 5:00pm. Please note that ticket sales have now closed and no further tickets are available to purchase.

Teacher Training Day:
Please note that Monday 2nd November is a Teacher Training Day, and school will be closed to pupils. We look forward to welcoming everyone back after the half term on Tuesday 3rd November.



Brandhall Primary School Parents' Guide to App Ages

Talk
Support
Keep them
safe online



Check the age requirement before your child signs up.

Recommended minimum ages for popular apps and games



WhatsApp
16+

in the UK/EU terms
Used for messaging,
calls and sharing.



Snapchat
13+

Photos, videos and
messaging (disappearing
content).



TikTok
13+

Short videos, trends
and messaging.



Instagram
13+

Photos, videos,
stories and messaging.



Facebook / Messenger
13+

Social networking
and messaging.



YouTube
13+

Standard YouTube.
Supervised options
available for younger children.



Roblox
5+

Platform minimum age is 5.
Use age-based parental controls
and remember individual
experiences/content vary.



Why it matters
Ofcom reports that many
8-12-year-olds access
online services despite
13+ minimum ages.

So, check your child's
accounts and settings.



Age rating ≠ safety rating.

A child being old enough does not mean every feature or interaction is suitable.

Age
opens the door...
parental guidance
keeps them safe.



Real conversations
build safer
online habits.

For primary-aged children

- ✓ Most social-media apps are 13+; don't create accounts using a false age.
- ✓ For younger children, choose child/supervised versions where available.
- ✓ Use parental controls.
- ✓ Review privacy settings.
- ✓ Keep accounts private.
- ✓ Talk regularly about strangers, messages, images and reporting.

Parents: 5 quick checks

- 1 Check the app's current minimum age.
- 2 Set parental controls.
- 3 Use private settings.
- 4 Review contacts/friends.
- 5 Agree screen-time and bedtime rules.



Guidance checked October 2026.
Platform rules can change — check the app's current terms and Ofcom/NSPCC guidance.

✓ Safer children
brighter futures

See your name in print!

Be part of the next edition of **Brandhall Beat**.

Got a story to tell? Send your story and photos to Kathryn.Hyde@Brandhall.Sandwell.sch.uk